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second deals more specifically with the different organs of government. A striking contrast with Germany is seen in the fact that in place of a single document, the sources of the new Austrian constitutional law (as of the former Austrian government) are to be found in a long series of measures. A list is given, with the titles of 31 statutes, 2 resolutions and one declaration, promulgated from October 30, 1918 to April 4, 1919. The most important are the provisional constitution of December 19, 1918, and two statutes of March 14, 1919.

It is of interest to note that both Dr. Giese and Dr. Merkl emphasize the doctrine of the complete legal discontinuity between the old and the new political systems. Attention may also be called to the declaration (in a statute of German Austria, March 12, 1919) that German Austria is a constituent part (*Bestandteil*) of the German Reich, in connection with the paragraph in the German constitution (article 61) providing for the representation of German Austria in the German Reichsrat, which the Peace Conference required to be canceled.

J. A. F.

France and Ourselves. Interpretative Studies: 1917-19. By HERBERT ADAMS GIBBONS. (New York: The Century Company. Pp. 286.)

For four years France bore the brunt of the German attack. During this time over a tenth of her soil, including some of her richest industrial provinces, were in German hands, the line of battle was never much over one hundred miles from her capital city, and twice was at its very gates. During these four years practically every able-bodied man between eighteen and fifty, except those imperatively required by necessary work at home, was in the army. All of France not occupied by the enemy was flooded with refugees from the invaded regions; the entire industrial life of the country was disorganized; nearly a million and a half of the men of the country were actually killed, and over half as many mutilated for life. There is scarcely a family in France which has not suffered not only heavy pecuniary loss, but bereavement of one or more of its members.

To all this must be added the terrific moral and mental strain through which France has passed. To the French a German conquest meant the end of all they held dear in their national life, and they realized to the full the enormous force of the German attack and the danger that

such a conquest might be its result. Three times, indeed, once in the first rush of 1914, once when the French offensive failed in the spring of 1917, and once again in the spring of 1918, it looked as though defeat were near, and until within a month of the armistice no one in France, except, perhaps, the small group of able and self-confident men who directed her armies, could do more than hope that the country would escape disaster.

This is a brief and inadequate statement of a few of the facts which Americans should bear in mind when they judge the temper and policy of France today. These facts and many more can be learned from reading Mr. Gibbons' book, and all the more vividly because the book is not a cold-blooded study made after the event, but a reprint of articles written at white heat during or immediately after the war while the agony of the struggle was in the writer's mind. Because written in this way, the book is full of a passionate eagerness for friendship and coöperation between France and America, which leads the author sometimes to statements, such as that on page 74, that "Deep down in the heart of every American is a passionate love of France," which it may be doubted if he would write today when many French and Americans are passing through the inevitable phase of reaction from the tremendous emotion which united the two countries during the war. Indeed, it may be doubted whether any but a small minority of any nation are ever inspired for long by a feeling which can fairly be described as "passionate love." We suggest for Mr. Gibbons' consideration when he is next moved to use such a phrase that he should read the conversation between Boswell and Doctor Johnson in which the great doctor said that public affairs vex no man, and that in spite of his strong feeling at the iniquities of the Whig opposition in the house of commons, he never slept an hour less nor ate an ounce less meat. So Mr. Gibbons' zeal leads him to slur over the fundamental differences between the Wilsonian policy of internationalism tinged by sentiment and the French realistic view of their relations with Germany. He is too anxious to see France and America working hand in hand to be willing to admit the difficulties that stand in the way so long as Mr. Wilson or those in sympathy with his policy remain at the head of affairs in the United States.

Much of the book must be classed less as history than as propaganda, though propaganda of a very high-minded type. In parts, too, as in the chapter dealing with the case against Caillaux, which was written in November, 1919, some months, that is, before the case came on for

trial, the author's account would have to be supplemented by facts necessarily inaccessible to him at the time. But the inevitable shortcomings of the book add in another way to its value. It vibrates with the spirit of the war and with the generous enthusiasm that inspired those Americans to whom the true character of France had been revealed. Its statements of fact are based on personal experience and intelligent observation. Often, as in the chapter on the industrial effort of France during the war, they are extraordinarily lucid and impressive.

We can cordially recommend this book to everyone who wishes to gain a true view of France and of what should be our attitude toward her people.

ARTHUR D. HILL.

Boston, Mass.

The French Revolution: A Study in Democracy. By NESTA H. WEBSTER. (New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. Pp. 519.)

This is a curious book. The author's purpose is to sweep away the legends of history perpetuated by the Germanized genius of Carlyle and the older historians, and to write an entirely new and unbiased history of the French Revolution. She therefore returns to the sources (chiefly the royalist and anti-republican sources) which she has read widely and carefully. But she says virtually nothing of all the great reform legislation, the political parties, the agrarian changes, and the attempts to establish liberty and equality, which made the French Revolution an epoch in human history. Instead she gives a detailed and very readable account of six dramatic episodes which resulted in attacks on royal authority and property: the Siege of the Bastille, the March on Versailles, the Invasion of the Tuileries, the Siege of the Tuileries, the Massacres of September, and the Reign of Terror. The underlying causes of these attacks are to be found, she thinks, not in the uprising of a down-trodden people against oppression, but in four great intrigues: "(1) The intrigue of the Orléanists to change the dynasty of France; (2) the intrigue of the Subversives to destroy all religion and all government; (3) the intrigue of Prussia to break the Franco-Austrian alliance; and (4) the intrigue of the English revolutionaries to overthrow the governments both of France and of England" (p. 34).